

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 09695 081507Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 /063 W  
-----104744 090128Z /75

R 081240Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4588  
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
CINCPAC  
AMCONSUL LAHORE  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 9695

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PK, IN  
SUBJECT: GOI VIEW OF PAKISTAN DEVELOPMENTS

REF: NEW DELHI 9583

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH POL COUNSELOR JULY 7, MEA JOINT SECRETARY S.V. PURUSHOTTAM, IN TEMPORARY CHARGE OF PAK/AFGHAN AFFAIRS, AGAIN STRESSED THE EXTREMELY CIRCUMSPECT PUBLIC APPROACH ON PAKISTAN DEVELOPMENTS THE GOI INTENDED TO FOLLOW. IT WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE LINE THAT EVENTS ACROSS THE BORDER WERE PAKISTAN'S OWN AFFAIR, NOT APPROPRIATE FOR INDIAN COMMENT.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 09695 081507Z

2. REFLECTING IN HIS PRIVATE COMMENTS THIS CIRCUMSPECT PUBLIC APPROACH, PURUSHOTTAM DECLINED TO SPECULATE AT ANY LENGTH ON WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IN PAKISTAN. CHOOSING HIS WORDS CAREFULLY, HE SAID THE GOI HAD NO REASON AT THIS TIME TO DOUBT GENERAL ZIA'S SINCERITY WHEN HE PLEDGED ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER. HE AGREED THAT DEVELOPMENTS COULD OCCUR BETWEEN NOW AND THEN

TO CHANGE THIS TIMETABLE. HE EXPRESSED SOME QUESTION ABOUT LEGAL PROVISIONS UNDER WHICH MARTIAL LAW REGIME WAS IMPOSED AND CONSTITUTION SUSPENDED BUT NOT ABROGATED, AND WONDERED WHAT ACTIONS A BHUTTO RETURNED AT THE POLLS WOULD TAKE AGAINST THOSE WHO HAD ACTED IN WHAT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS AN ILLEGAL MANNER. BUT HE IN NO WAY QUESTIONED LEGITIMACY OF THE PRESENT GOP AND WAS CAREFUL NOT TO PREDICT HOW THE ELECTION IF HELD, WOULD COME OUT.

3. WELCOMING THE ACTION, PURUSHOTTAM CONFIRMED THAT GOP FOREIGN SECRETARY AGHA SHAHI HAD CALLED IN INDIAN AMBASSADOR BAJPAI ON JULY 5 TO ASSURE HIM THAT NEW PAK AUTHORITIES WOULD CONTINUE TO ENDEAVOR TO DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SIMLA AGREEMENT. HE DISCLOSED THAT PAK AMBASSADOR TO INDIA FIDA HASAN HAD ASKED TO SEE FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE AND HAD GIVEN HIM SIMILAR ASSURANCES ON JULY 7.

4. DISCUSSING BASIC INDIAN INTERESTS IN PAKISTAN, PURUSHOTTAM REPEATEDLY SAID THAT GOI GAVE TOP PRIORITY TO STABILITY THERE. HE SAID THAT HOW PAKS ACHIEVED AND MAINTAINED THAT STABILITY WAS THEIR BUSINESS. AS A COUNTRY WHICH HAD JUST RESTORED ITS DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, INDIA NATURALLY WOULD PREFER TO SEE A DEMOCRATIC SETUP ALSO ESTABLISHED IN PAKISTAN. BUT THAT WAS UP TO THE PAKS TO DECIDE, PURUSHOTTAM CONCLUDED.

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PAGE 03 NEW DE 09695 081507Z

5. EMBASSY IS PREPARING A SEPARATE MESSAGE, TO GO OUT SHORTLY, ASSESSING THE GOI REACTION TO PAKISTAN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DESAI GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL APPROACH TO ITS RELATIONS TO ITS SOUTH ASIAN NEIGHBORS.  
GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

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